

	MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM	ISSUED	REVISED	CHAPTER	SECTION
	AT-RISK AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL	7/1/03	2/12	2	2.1
CHAPTER Chapter 2. Eligibility Requirements		SUBJECT Public or Private Non-Profit Organizations			

Program Eligibility

At-risk after school programs operated by public agencies or tax-exempt private non-profit organizations must:

- be organized primarily to provide care after school hours or on weekends, and holidays or school vacations during the regular school year;
- have organized, regularly scheduled activities in a structured and supervised environment;
- include education or enrichment activities;
- have tax exempt status under Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Code of 1986;
- be licensed or license exempt and meet annual State or local health and safety standards*;
- be “area eligible” which means a geographical attendance area served by a public school (an elementary, middle, or high school) where at least 50 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP);
- serve nutritionally balanced meals and snacks that meet USDA’s nutrition standards;
- claim reimbursement only for eligible meals or a maximum of one snack and one supper per participant per day;
- be served to school age children who are age 18 or under at the start of the school year or meet the definition of Persons with disabilities in 226.21; and
- not charge children for the snack and/or supper meal that is reimbursed under the CACFP be claimed at the free reimbursement rate.

At-risk after school meals and snacks may be reimbursed if they are served on weekends or holidays, including vacation periods (spring break, for example) during the regular school year only. At-risk programs cannot receive reimbursement during the summer vacation months. In areas where schools operate on a year-round basis (i.e., the regularly scheduled school year is year-round), at-risk after school program programs set up to serve children attending the year-round-schools may receive reimbursement for meals and snack through the CACFP all year [7 CFR 226.17a(a)].

The tax-exempt status must be verified by submitting the determination letter (501c3) from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) with the initial application to the CACFP. **Organizations holding Missouri tax exempt status with the Secretary of State’s office without holding the Federal IRS tax exemption are not eligible to participate in the CACFP.** The institution may participate without tax-exempt status if it is

part of a military installation or is currently operating another Federal program that requires non-profit status, i.e. schools.

Public at-risk after school programs are those owned or operated by city, county, or state governmental entities. Public programs may be licensed or license-exempt and must meet health and safety standards.

*Eligible afterschool programs do not need to be licensed in order to participate unless there is a state or local requirement for licensing. If there is no state or local requirement for licensing, then after school programs must meet annual state or local health, sanitation, and safety standards. These after school programs must provide certification that the facility has met minimum health, sanitation, and safety standards by submitting a copy of a recent fire safety inspection and a copy of a recent sanitation inspection.

Section 9(h) of the National School Lunch Act requires schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or School Breakfast Program (SBP) to obtain two food safety inspections each year from State or local authorities. Therefore, schools that participate as outside school hour care centers or at-risk after school centers in CACFP do not have to meet additional health and safety requirements. Their participation in the NSLP or SBP is proof of meeting health and safety requirements.

Organized athletic programs engaged in interscholastic or community level competitive sports only (i.e. youth sports leagues such as “Babe Ruth,” swim teams, soccer and football leagues) **may not** be approved to operate an at-risk after school program. However, the after school program which includes supervised athletic activities may participate provided that they are “open to all” and do not limit membership for reasons other than space, security, or licensing requirements.

Traditional Child Care Centers

While the at-risk component of CACFP is primarily geared towards non-traditional child care centers such as drop in afterschool programs, traditional child care centers already participating in CACFP also may participate. In this situation, children would attend the center after their school day or on weekends, holidays, or school vacation. Children who do not attend school would continue to participate in the traditional CACFP meal service provided by the center, even during the “afterschool” hours.

Centers operating both the traditional and at-risk components of the CACFP may only claim a total of two meals and one snack or one meal and two snacks, per child per day, including the afterschool snack [7 CFR § 226.17a(k)].

Participant Eligibility

At-risk afterschool programs may claim reimbursement only for meals and snacks served to children who participate in an approved after school program and who are age 18 or under at the start of the school year. Reimbursement also may be claimed for participants who turn age 19 during the school year [7 CFR §226.17a (c)]. There is no age limit for persons with disabilities [7 CFR §226.2 Definitions]. Federal law has no minimum age for at-risk program participants. Meals and snacks served to children who are enrolled in preschool, Head Start, Even Start, etc. and who are participating in an eligible after school program are eligible for reimbursement.

EXAMPLE: Serving lunch to children after half-day kindergarten or a half-day Head Start Program is allowable through the at-risk afterschool meals component of CACFP because their school day has ended. However, before approving an institution to operate such a program, MDHSS-BCFNA must be ensured that the same children who are receiving lunch in the at-risk after school program are not being served lunch in school as well.

The intent of this program is to assist schools and public and private nonprofit organizations to operate programs which include education or enrichment activities known to help reduce or prevent children's involvement in juvenile crime or other high risk behaviors.

References:

USDA-CACFP 564

7 CFR 226.17a

At-Risk Afterschool Meals A Child and Adult Care Food Program Handbook, USDA/FNS, June 2011